

HARPSWELL ENERGY TASK FORCE COMMITTEE

NOV. 16, 2009 MEETING MINUTES - Approved December 14, 2009

Committee Chairman David I. Chipman called the meeting to order at 5:05pm at the Harpswell Town Office. Committee members David I. Chipman, Debora Levensailor, John Monaghan, Jr., and Robert Bartley, and Harpswell Town Administrator Kristi Eiane were all in attendance.

October 26, 2009 Meeting Minutes - On a Chipman/Bartley motion, the committee unanimously voted to accept the October 26, 2009 meeting minutes as presented.

John distributed copies of the energy survey report he had compiled regarding energy conservation measures for the town office, recycling center, and TV station, subsequent cost savings and the probable reduction of carbon dioxide emissions. The committee reviewed the report and agreed to Kristi's request to use it as documentation to submit to the Budget Committee in support of the \$10,000 request for matching grant funds.

The committee and Kristi commended John for his detailed, comprehensive work and thanked him for his efforts. John had previously submitted the report to Justin Holmes of the Midcoast Economic Development District for use in the Midcoast Regional Weatherization and Energy Efficiency Initiative Coalition's grant application. Dave said it had been well received. Kristi said, "This certainly shows due diligence on the town's part and should be beneficial for us." John informed the committee that Efficiency Maine is applying for another \$40 million in stimulus funds.

The committee discussed suggested changes to the exterior town office lights. John said LED lights are expensive but the town should be paid back for them sooner and they would last much longer and require less maintenance over the years than the type presently in place. Perhaps a combination of photo and motion cells could be used in the future. In addition, the committee agreed to recommend that some of the \$2,000 energy funds (2009) presently available be used to replace the fan in the bathroom near the reception area, and T12 with more efficient T8 lights sensors in all of the town office bathrooms and stairwells, and the hallway near the sheriff's office.

The committee and Kristi toured the basement and other areas of the town office and observed the sensors and various mechanical components of the lighting and heating systems.

Deb spoke about implementing a building management system at the town office and asked if anyone had been assigned the responsibility of turning the lights off after everyone is finished working each night. Dave said he has seen them left on several times. Kristi said the town staff will try to be more aware and turn them off.

Kristi informed the committee that someone has donated lights to decorate the large blue spruce tree outside the town office for the holidays and asked the members for their

opinions regarding related energy costs. The committee agreed to look into how much electricity would be required if the Selectmen asked them to.

The committee continued the discussion of their goals which include the following - researching the town's electrical usage overall for the last five years and determining a projection for the next five years, developing criteria regarding the necessity of keeping street lights on in various locations in town, placing an anemometer on the cell tower to determine wind velocity and duration in preparation for possibly locating a wind tower in the area, researching the state ordinance model for wind towers, and holding a series of energy forums featuring special speakers in an effort to promote public education regarding energy usage, weatherization, and alternative forms of energy.

Deb shared several newspaper articles she had read concerning energy matters. She talked about the new bill Governor Baldacci signed on June 24, 2009 which establishes a program administered by the Public Utilities Commission supporting and providing incentives for community-based renewable energy projects such as tidal, wind, and solar initiatives. Dave said he will ask State Senator Stan Gerzofsky to speak at one of the committee's proposed forums.

Next Scheduled Committee Meeting - Monday, Dec. 14, 2009 at 4pm at the Harpswell Town Office.

On a Levensailor/Monaghan motion, the committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting. Dave adjourned the meeting at 6:50p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debora A. Levensailor, Vice-Chairwoman, HETFC